GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1484
ANSWERED ON:07.03.2001
CONTAMINATED DRINKING WATER
LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the people in various States are getting contaminated drinking water containing fluoride;

(b) whether a large number of people are falling prey to fluorosis disease as a result of consuming this water;

(c) if so, names of the States worst affected; and

(d) the measures being taken by the Government in this direction?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA)

(a) to (d) As per studies conducted, certain states in the country have been found endemic for diseases occurring from an excess of fluoride in drinking water.

Some of these states are Karnataka, Rajasthan, Maharashtra, Kerala & Gujarat.In order to counter the problem arising out of excess flouride in drinking water, Department of Drinking Water Supply has sanctioned seventy projects, prior to 1.4.1998, under the Sub-Mission on control of Fluoride in drinking water, for providing clean drinking water free of excess fluoride and other pollutants in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala, Orissa, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh, Punjab and Tamilnadu. However, w.e.f. 1.4.1998, power to sanction such projects under Sub-Mission programme have been delegated to States. The cost of the projects is being shared by Central Government and respective State Governments on 75:25 basis.